

I disagree with this petition. We should not consolidate the Novice with the Tech license or the Advanced with the Extra. This petition is seeking to fix a problem that doesn't exist. Even though it brings up some valid points and sensible ways of implementing them it misses the point when trying to combine classes. Why should the Advance be given Extra class privileges? If, as the petition claims, the exams are no harder for Extra than Advanced then the Advanced class operator could easily pass the current Extra exam and get those additional privileges.

Also, the petitioners research on the Technician class operators that have not renewed or upgraded are terrible flawed and make no sense whatsoever. They only consider the initial time period when new no-code Tech licenses were first issued. During this very short period of time we received a lot of new no-code Techs who were only trying it out and found that it wasn't for them. There are more Generals and Extra class operators now than ever before so the code requirement is not a determinant for hams that want to upgrade.

I oppose this petition.